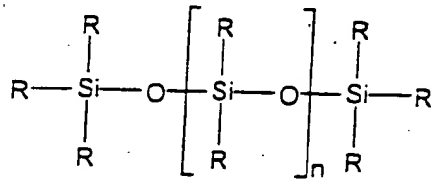
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) Surface coated hard material comprising single hard grain~~ids~~ material having a hardness ($HV_{0.2}$) ≥ 15~~10~~ GPa, the surface of which has a polysiloxane coating in an amount from 0.001 to 10%-wt relative to the hard material and of the formula:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl and/or phenyl group and non-reactive as incorporated in the polysiloxane, and n is an integer between 1 and 100.

2. canceled

3. (currently amended) The surface coated hard material as defined in Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, wherein the hard material comprises aluminum oxide.

4. (previously presented) The surface coated hard material as defined in Claim 1, wherein the hard material is a material selected from the group consisting of electro-corundum, monocrystalline corundum, sintered corundum, sintered alumina, calcined alumina, or mixtures of these.

5-7. canceled

8. (currently amended) The surface coated hard material as defined in claim 1~~5~~, wherein the R radical is preferably a methyl group.

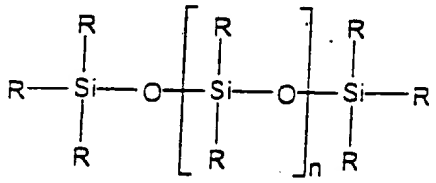
9. canceled

10. (currently amended) The surface coated hard material as defined in claim 1~~9~~, wherein the quantity of the polysiloxane amounts to 0.01 to 5%-Wt relative to the hard material that is used.

11. (currently amended) The surface coated hard material as defined in claim 1~~9~~, wherein ~~it is preferred that~~ the quantity of the polysiloxane amounts to 0.1 to 1.5%-wt relative to the hard material that is used.

12. (currently amended) Method for producing a surface coated hard material ~~as defined in claim 1~~, comprising the steps of:

coating a hard material grain with a polysiloxane, a polysiloxane solution or emulsion, or a diluted polysiloxane solution or emulsion in an amount from 0.001 to 10%-wt relative to the hard material and of the formula:



where R is hydrogen, an alkyl and/or phenyl group and non-reactive as incorporated in the polysiloxane, and n is an integer between 1 and 100;

heat treating the hard material grain in a temperature range between 100°C and 600°C prior to the coating process; and

drying the coated hard material grain in a temperature range between 100°C and 400°C.

13-14. canceled

15. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the drying temperature is between 100°C and 200°C.

16. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein an aqueous polysiloxane emulsion is used.

17. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the viscosity of the polysiloxane, the polysiloxane emulsion, or the diluted polysiloxane emulsion that is used is below 1500 mPa*s.

18. (previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 17, wherein the viscosity of the polysiloxane, the polysiloxane emulsion, or the diluted polysiloxane emulsion that is used is below 1000 mPa*s.

19-20. canceled